

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-04 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00 A-01

SY-02 DRC-01 RSC-01 /024 W

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 462

S E C R E T RABAT 4827

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A. KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: RABAT 4826

1. FOLLOWING PREPARATION REFTEL I WAS SUMMONED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY BY FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA WHO EXPRESSED GOM DISTRESS AT PROPOSED ADVANCE OF SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE TIME TO 1330 AND ASKED IF WE COULD NOT POSSIBLY DELAY UNTIL 1430. I TOLD HIM WE WOULD REPORT HIS VIEWS IMMEDIATELY AND IN MEANTIME SUGGESTED START OF SECRETARY'S CONVERSATION WITH KING ON MORNING OF 6TH BE ADVANCED TO 0930. BENHIMA SAID HE WOULD RAISE WITH KING.

2. BENHIMA THEN SAID HE INSTRUCTED BY KING TO SAY LATTER FEARED TWO HOURS ON MORNING OF 6TH WAS NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR THOROUGH DISCUSSION WHICH SITUATION REQUIRED AND WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT AFTER HAVING DINNER AT VILLA, SECRETARY COME ACROSS STREET TO KING'S PRIVATE VILLA FOR PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AT ABOUT 2300 LOCAL. (KING DOES NOT GO TO BED UNTIL 1:00 A.M., SO THERE WOULD BE TIME FOR RELAXED TALK. FOREIGN MINISTER WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF PARTICIPATION BY HIMSELF AND MYSELF ALONG WITH SECRETARY, BUT I HAVE FEELING KING HAS IN MIND DISCUSSION TETE-A-TETE AT 2300 AS PROPOSED, BUT REQUEST CONFIRMATION.

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3. BENHIMA INDICATED THAT KING WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF STARTING DISCUSSIONS ON MORNING OF 6TH WITH MEMBERS OF PARTY ALONG LINES INDICATED IN STATE 216766, I.E., SECRETARY, NEWSOM, SISCO, ATHERTON OR SAUNDERS, AND INTERPRETER PLUS MYSELF, FOR HALF AN HOUR, AND THEN GOING INTO PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY AND INTERPRETER FOR REST OF MORNING. REST OF PARTY LISTED ABOVE WOULD MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AND POSSIBLY OTHER GOM OFFICIALS, WHILE KING MEETING WITH SECRETARY.

4. BENHIMA ASKED WHETHER SECRETARY WOULD BE MAKING ARRIVAL STATEMENT AT AIRPORT. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD MAKE VERY GOOD IMPRESSION LOCALLY IF HE DID. I AGREE, BUT MADE NO COMMITMENT.
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